

Wednesday Weekly

(A weekly update on agriculture education from the Department of Public Instruction)

The most recent 8 issues of Wednesday Weekly are available online at:
<http://www.dpi.state.wi.us/dlsis/let/agww.html>

April 5, 2006

In This Issue:

- Curriculum In-Service a Success
- Supplemental Rosters
- Service Learning/Million Hour Challenge
- National FFA Organization To Host Delta Conference and Delta II
- TEACH Program
- Web site for Wisconsin Ag Ed vacancies:
- Ag Ed Library Available from CAERT
- New Scholarship Announced
- 2006 American Nursery and Landscape Association Grant Application
- Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board "Lesson in a Bottle" Curriculum Kit
- WAAE PSA Contest

Curriculum In-Service A Success

49 Agricultural Education Teachers attend the curriculum in-service at Lodi High School with distance ed to Gilman and Oconto Falls. Thank you to all teachers who attended last the curriculum in-service. A special thank you to Glenda Crook Eric Larsen and Rhona Schuebel for setting up the distance ed part of the in-service. For those Ag Teachers who attended if you did not receive your cd-rom of curriculum, it will be mailed to you. All who attended will receive one access code to the new CAERT Aged Library starting possibly in May and through all of next year. Remember we want to hear feedback on whether we should pursue further with the alignment of this curriculum. Also please share this with other ag teachers around you and get their feedback. Again thank you for taking the time to attend.

Supplemental Rosters

Now that the deadline has passed for submitting supplemental rosters, don't forget to send in payment for the members you've added. Rosters cannot be sent to National FFA until payment is received. As a reminder:

- Payment must be made payable to "Wisconsin Association of FFA", not the FFA Center, not DPI, not Keith Eccarius (thanks but no thanks.) I've had problems with our bank when trying to deposit some payments made out incorrectly.
- The mailing address for payment is on the Totals page that needs to be printed, signed and returned with payment.

Mail to: Wisconsin Association of FFA
Attention: Keith Eccarius
125 S. Webster Street
PO Box 7841
Madison, WI 53707-7841

Attention all Wisconsin FFA Advisors!!!!

The National FFA is seeking applications from FFA state associations to identify and engage rural youth in service learning activities. By working with four chapters in the their states, we will demonstrate that: 1) through active citizenship individuals can recognize the power of self and

organized groups to create positive change; and 2) civic engagement through service learning can benefit the community and create lifelong habits.

Projects must take place during August 2006-February 2007

States will identify four chapters in the application process to develop, implement, document, and evaluate locally developed civic engagement and service learning projects. Grants up to \$20,000 will be awarded to 10 state associations. From this award each chapter will receive financial assistance in the amount of \$3-4,000

Funds are being provided through a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) Rural Youth Development program.

Only 4 chapters from Wisconsin will be selected to apply for this opportunity. If your chapter is interested in applying for this grant money, the brief application is attached. Please remember 11 Font for your description answers. Send your project proposal electronically to Jeff Hicken at DPI by 3:30 pm Thursday, April 6, 2006. This project could be a great benefit for your communities in Wisconsin as well as help to position Ag Education in your school and community!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

National FFA Organization To Host Delta Conference and Delta II

Delta Conference is a five day professional development conference designed specifically for local agricultural education teachers. The primary objectives of **Delta Conference** are:

- Provide training in strategies that engage all students in learning
- Expand the local teacher's influence in the classroom, school, and community
- Advance the integration and use of LifeKnowledge at the local level

Teachers with a minimum of one year teaching experience and with plans to teach in the 2006-2007 school year are eligible to apply for Delta. Selected teachers will only be responsible for their travel to and from Indianapolis. The organization and FFA Foundation will provide lodging and meals for the participants while at the conference. Emphasis in the selection process will be placed on the teacher's use of LifeKnowledge, the teacher's willingness to grow as a teacher and leader, and the teacher's ability to influence fellow agricultural education instructors.

A total of 30 positions are available to attend the **Delta Conference**. State leaders will be notified of teachers from their states who have applied for the Delta Conference as well as those teachers who have been selected.

The organization is focusing efforts to create a second Delta Conference for an additional 50 first time attendees. Details about this effort are outlined in the attached word document. This conference would take place July 23-28 in Indianapolis. Notification about hosting a second Delta Conference will be sent to state leaders and applicants by April 21.

The application for Delta Conference can be requested from Jeff Hicken (Jeffrey.hicken@dpi.state.wi.us). Applications are due **electronically** to delta@ffa.org by **April 10, 2006**. Please forward this e-mail to those teachers who you feel are interested in applying for **Delta Conference**.

In conjunction with Delta Conference, the organization will also be hosting **Delta II**. **Delta II** is for 20 participants who attended the 2005 Delta Conference. While part of **Delta II** will focus on growing the returning teacher's own agricultural education program, a significant amount of time will be spent

preparing **Delta II** participants to help other agricultural education teachers integrate LifeKnowledge in their programs. These applications will be sent directly to last year's participants.

Andy Armbruster
Education Specialist
LifeKnowledge Center for Agricultural Education
National FFA Organization
6060 FFA Drive PO Box 68960
Indianapolis, IN 46278-1370

Voice: (317) 802-4308
Fax: (317) 802-5308
aarmbruster@ffa.org
www.ffa.org

TEACH Program

TEACH is a global agriculture program in which teachers from urban and rural areas with low to moderate-income populations gain valuable international experience in agriculture, natural resources, nutrition, and knowledge on the global impact of agriculture while engaging in hands-on agricultural and scientific research activities. Previously known as TEACH US, the TEACH Program was created and funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in order to promote the awareness of agricultural and environmental sciences in middle and high schools.

This year, the TEACH Program will send teachers to Mexico to observe and work with agricultural scientists in the field. Educators selected for participation in the TEACH Program will gain first-hand exposure and experience in agricultural and scientific research. Teachers will use this international field experience to incorporate agriculture, science, and global studies curricula in their individual classrooms. In addition to the international agricultural expedition, participants will engage in pre-trip preparation and extended follow-up activities.

This is a great opportunity for agricultural educators to travel outside of the United States, experience agriculture in an international setting and to meet educators from across the country.

The TEACH application is attached to this email and is also available on the NAAE website at <http://www.naae.org/awards/applications/index.html>. Applications are due to the USDA on **April 24, 2006**.

Web site for Wisconsin Ag Ed vacancies:

<http://www.wisconsin.gov/state/app/employment?COMMAND=gov.wi.state.cpp.job.command.LoadSeekerHome>

Ag Ed Library Available from CAERT

CAERT, is pleased to announce the availability of www.agedlibrary.com. The Ag Ed Library encompasses a new method for the online delivery of content traditionally found in textbooks. A school subscription allows your teachers and their students' access to concise content units developed specifically to accompany the lesson plans on your state's Lesson Plan Library CD.

A demo of the Ag Ed Library may be viewed by clicking on the link below:

<http://www.agedlibrary.com/LoginDemo.asp>

As you review the Library, please keep in mind that special state subscriptions can be developed so that the Library is fully integrated with your state's lesson plan CD and online matrix. In such cases, you will have a set of tools that allows your teachers to Plan, Deliver, and Document instruction that

meets state academic learning goals. For more information on a state subscription, contact Dan Pentony at dpentony@caert.net.

NEW Scholarship Announced

The Wisconsin FFA Foundation is pleased to announce the Wisconsin Idea Foundation will be funding a \$500 scholarship this year. In addition to meeting the General Criteria for scholarship eligibility, the recipient must be pursuing a degree in environmental education/natural resources. For further information regarding scholarships offered through The Wisconsin FFA Foundation, click on <http://www.wisconsinffa.org/files/06-scholarshiplist.doc> . To complete an application, click on <http://www.wisconsinffa.org/files/06-scholarshipapps.xls>.

2006 American Nursery and Landscape Association Grant Application

NAAE is pleased to announce the continuation of the **American Nursery and Landscape Association "Enhancing Nursery and Landscape Instruction"** Grant Program.

The objective of this grant program is to build outstanding instructional programs that prepare students to enter nursery and landscape related careers and/or higher education in areas related to nursery/landscape.

NAAE will accept NAAE/ANLA Enhancing Nursery and Landscape Instruction Grant proposals from teachers/instructors at any secondary school and two-year postsecondary institution who are active members or active life members of NAAE.

The postmark deadline for submitting applications to the NAAE office is **May 15, 2006**.

Application details are attached in Word and PDF formats and can also be downloaded from the NAAE website at <http://www.naae.org/awards/applications/index.html>.

Please feel free to contact the NAAE office if you have any questions.

WAAE PSA Contest Information Available - Entries Due 05/15/06

The WAAE PSA contest information for this year is now available

Your students/chapter can receive \$250 for the winning PSA

Click on the link below for more information

<http://www.waae.com/PSA%20Annoucement1.doc>

That's all for this week from your DPI Staff:

J. Keith Eccarius Administrative Assistant Agriculture and Natural Resources Education Department of Public Instruction P.O. Box 7841 Madison, WI 53707-7841 608-266-7262 608-267-9275 (fax) J.Keith.Eccarius@dpi.state.wi.us	Jeff Hicken Agriculture and Natural Resources Consultant Agriculture and Natural Resources Education Department of Public Instruction P.O. Box 7841 Madison, WI 53707-7841 608-267-9255 608-267-9275 (fax) Jeffrey.hicken@dpi.state.wi.us
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<http://www.dpi.wi.gov/cte/agwww.html>